GENEALOGY
974.102
B764
1873

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01820 9012

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

AND THE

Superintending School Committee

OF THE

Town of Bridgton,

FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 1873.

Printed at "The News" Office, Bridgton.

GENEALOGY
974.102
B764
1873

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01820 9012

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

AND THE

Superintending School Committee

OF THE

Town of Bridgton,

FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 1873.

Printed at "The News" Office, Bridgton.

Warrant for Town Meeting.

TO JOHN F. POTTER, CONSTABLE OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGTON, in the County of Cumberland,—*Greeting:*

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF MAINE, You are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Bridgton qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs, to meet and assemble at the Town House in said Town, on TUESDAY, the third day of MARCH, A. D. 1874, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following Articles —to wit:—

1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
2. " choose a Town Clerk for the ensuing year.
3. " choose Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.
4. " choose one or more Road Commissioners.
5. " choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
6. " choose a Trustee of the School Fund.
7. " choose a Town Agent.
8. " choose one member Superintending School Committee.
9. " choose an Auditor of Accounts.
10. " see if the Town will vote to make their Treasurer Collector of Taxes; if not, to choose a Collector of Taxes, and determine what compensation the Collector shall receive for his services.
11. " choose one or more Constables for the ensuing year.
12. " choose such other Town Officers as the law requires for the ensuing year.
13. " raise money to defray Town charges.
14. " raise money for the support of the Poor.
15. " raise money for the support of Schools.
16. " see if the Town will vote to raise money to pay the Town Debt or any part thereof.
17. " raise money for making and repairing Highways and Bridges.
18. " determine the price of labor and material for repairing Highways and Bridges.
19. " see if the Town will vote to raise money to pay balance due on repairs on Town Farm buildings; also to see if the Town will vote to make further repairs on said buildings.

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise money to pay E. E. Wilder's order, drawn as per vote of Town Sept. 8th, 1873.

21. " see if the Town will vote to raise money to pay Insane Hospital bill.

22. " see if the Town will vote to have a new valuation taken, and choose a Committee for said purpose.

23. " see if the Town will vote to choose a Committee to examine into the financial condition of the Town.

24. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of George G. Wight.

25. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of James Webb.

26. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of Joseph Adams.

27. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of Levi S. Newcomb.

28. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of John Bennett.

29. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of B. F. Knapp.

30. " see if the Town will allow the alleged claim of Samuel Lord, 2d.

31. " see if the Town will vote to tax dogs.

32. " see if the Town will charge Stephen Barker for stone taken from Town Farm.

33. " see if the Town will vote to raise money to build the Hiram Road so called.

34. " see if the Town will instruct the Selectmen to petition the County Commisiioners to discontinne the Hiram Road, so called.

35. " see if the Town will vote to change the time of holding their Annual Meeting from the first Tuesday, and hold it on the first Monday of March.

36. " see if the Town will vote to pay Harriet Ricker for support of Betsey Smith, in the town of Baldwin.

37. " see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Henry Emerson Road, or any part thereof

38. " see if the Town will vote to exempt from taxation for a term of years Hotel Property which may be erected in the Town of Bridgton in the Municipal year 1874.

The Selectmen will be in session at their office on Monday, the 2d day of March, 1874, at ten o'clock A. M., for the purpose of revising the list of voters.

Given Under our Hands, this 21st day of February, A. D. 1874.

E. F. FESSENDEN,
BYRON KIMBALL,
I. S. WEBB,
Selectmen of Bridgton.

REPORT.

VALUATION.

Real and Personal Estate of Residents,	$724,707 00
Real Estates of Non-Residents,	55,600 00
Total,	$780,307 00

No. of Taxable Polls, 709.

MONEY RAISED AND ASSESSED FOR 1873.

For Town Debt and Interest,	$5000 00
Support of Schools,	3500 00
Highways and Bridges,	3000 00
Support of Poor,	1000 00
Town Charges,	800 00
Repairs on Town House,	325 00
Repairs on Town Farm Buildings,	300 00
Town of Harrison Note,	192 35
Howard Road, so called,	100 00
Chaplin Road, "	75 00
Eastman Heirs on Proctor Road,	50 00
D. P. Larrabee,	25 50
	$14367 85
State Tax,	$4282 65
County Tax,	1210 31
	$19860 81
Overlay in Assessing,	$681 43
Highway Deficiency for 1872,	211 59
	$20753 83
Amount of Tax on Dogs,	$113 00
Amount committed to Collector,	$20866 83

Rate of Taxation, $2.36 on $100. Poll, $3.

SCHOOL MONEY.

Amount raised by Assessment,	$3500 00
State Mill Tax,	870 09
Savings Bank Tax,	295 73
Interest on School Fund,	61 65
Total,	$4727 47

Whole number of Scholars, 834. Rate per Scholar, $5.66.

School District No. 9.

Valuation.

Real and Personal Estates of Residents,	$13757 00
Real Estates of Non-Residents,	3900 00
Total,	$17657 00

Number of Polls, 13.

Am't raised by vote of Dist., as per Clerk's Certificate,	$52 30
for assessing and collecting,	5 00
of Overlay,	87
Supplement Tax,	2 85
Amount committed to Collector,	$61 02

Rate per cent. 27 5-10 cents on $100. Poll Tax, 75 cts.

School District No. 18.

Valuation.

Real and Personal Estates of Residents,	$18700 00
Real Estates of Non-Residents,	3750 00
Total,	$22450 00

Number of Polls, 15.

Am't raised by vote of Dist., as per Clerk's Certificate,	$65 00
for assessing and collecting,	5 00
Overlay,	1 61
Amount committed to Collector,	$71 61

Rate, 27 cts. on $100. Poll Tax, 80 cts.

School District No. 12.

Valuation.

Real and Personal Estates of Residents,	$15884 00
Real Estates of Non-Residents,	4115 00
Total,	$19999 00

Number of Polls, 23.

Am't raised by vote of Dist., as per Clerk's Certificate,	$600 00
Overlay,	28 97
Amount committed to Collector,	$628 97

Rate, $2.80 on $100. Poll Tax, $3.

Union School District No. 1.

Valuation.

Real and Personal Estates of Residents,	$300,603 00
Real Estates of Non-Residents,	35,200 00
Total,	$335,803 00

Number of Polls, 308.

Amount raised as per vote of District,	$2500 00
of Overlay,	105 46
of Supplement tax,	193 20
Amount committed to Collector,	$2798 66

Rate, 70 cts. on $100. Poll Tax, $1.45.

Money received from State for Schools to be expended in 1874.

State Mill Tax,	$834 82
Savings Bank Tax and State School Fund,	560 28
Interest on School Fund,	61 76
	$1456 86

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor,	$375 00
Town Treasurer,	25 00
Town Clerk,	25 00
Town Agent,	10 00
Town Auditor,	3 00
Superintending School Committee,	100 00

ANDREWS' CHARITABLE FUND.

The interest for one year has been disposed of in accordance with the bequest.

INSANE HOSPITAL.

Paid am't of Bills for Mary Wentworth,	$148 05	
" " " Mary Dyer,	133 42	
" " " Frances Small,	127 69	
" " " Paulina Varney,	131 20	
Total,	$540 36	
The Bill for Frances Small has been refunded to the Town,	$127 69	
		$412 67

We have the promise of Mr. Varney that the bill paid for his wife shall be refunded to the Town.

ALLEGED CLAIMS.

George G. Wight, for injury to himself and horse, and damage to sleigh and harness.
James Webb, for injury to wife on Highway.
Joseph Adams of Sweden, for damage to sleigh.
Levi S. Newcomb, for damage to horse.
John Bennett, for Overtax.
B. F. Knapp, for damage to wagon and harness.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Wm. F. Fessenden, Treasurer, in account with Town of Bridgton.

DR.

To Cash in hands of P. P. Burnham, Treasurer, Feb. 20, 1873, ...	$2 21
" Amount of 21 School District Orders No. 11, from Charles Griffin, Collector of said District, ...	557 68
Cash received of Phebe F. Page, Non-resident tax, 1871, ...	14 15
" " Robt. C. Wood, " "	4 80
Amount of interest collected on School Fund Note, 1872, ...	61 76
Cash received of Geo. A. Small, for board of Frances Small at Insane Hospital, ...	29 28
" Nutter and Dawes, or Unknown, ...	3 95
" of Geo. A. Small, for board of Frances Small at Insane Hospital, ...	29 75
" for Licenses, ...	10 00
" of Nath'l S. Littlefield, collected of town of Oxford,	190 00
Amount of 101 Town Orders of J. F. Potter, Collector, ...	3202 08
Amount of Non-resident tax returned by J. F. Potter, Collector for 1872, ...	178 81
Amount of certificate of State School Fund and Savings Bank Tax, ...	560 28
" Mill Tax, ...	834 82
Cash received of Wm. Stevens, Non-Resident Tax for 1872, ...	46
Washington Chaplin, do.	4 64
Rensallear Cram, do.	14 30
Wm. P. Corson, do.	1 07
Geo. F. Foster, do.	11 44
Horace Flint, do.	8 58
Richard Gage, do.	22 92
Wm. A. Goodwin, do.	4 65
Joseph Hobson, Jr., do.	8 58
Nathaniel Hale, do.	1 14
Daniel Lowell, do.	2 50
James Moody, do.	72
Mark McLucas, do.	1 08
Samuel F. Perley, do.	22 88
Sarah Rogers, do.	4 29
Gilbert Smith & Son, do.	2 63
Newell W. Emerson, do	3 36
Abel Sanborn, do.	3 36
Geo. A. Small, for board of Frances Small, at Insane Hospital, ...	31 15
Asa Prescott, Non-Resident Tax for 1872, ...	3 36
John Nason, Estate, do.	2 41
Hilton & Berry, do.	1 75
George W. Hazen, do.	6 82
Am't of 38 Town Orders of J. F. Potter, Collector for 1871 and 1872,	1371 05
Cash of J. F. Potter, balance in full for 1871 and 1872, ...	2
Am't of 239 Town Orders rec'd of John F. Potter, Collector for 1873,	6522 47
Cash received of J. F. Potter, 1873, ...	14 00
" " J. W. Fowler, Highway Surveyor Dist. No. 29, 1872,	38 25
" " J. P. Perley, Surveyor Dist. No. 28, for 1869 and '71,	84 50
Order of abatement of Non-resident taxes for 1872, ...	18 63
Cash received of Geo. W. Hazen, Non-resident tax and cost for 1871,	8 52
Amount of interest collected on School Fund Note, 1873, ...	61 76
" 99 Town Orders rec'd of J. F. Potter, Collector for 1873,	3492 24
" 6 " " Charles Griffin, Collector of School District No. 11, 1872, ...	55 30
Cash received of C. Griffin, Collector of Dist. No. 11, to bal. in full,	53 47
	$17,563 87

CR.

By paying 21 School District Orders. No. 11,	$557 68
for making Non-resident Deeds,	1 33
for 10 Town Orders,	166 33
H. A. Shorey, advertising Non-resident Tax,	5 00
Amount of 101 Town Orders,	3202 08
Non-resident Tax, as per charge,	178 81
5 Town Orders,	146 60
Paid on State Pensions,	60 00
60 Town Orders,	1394 95
38 "	1371 05
239 "	6522 47
3 "	135 92
4 "	103 13
99 "	3492 24
6 "	55 30
Cash in hands of Treasurer,	170 98
	$17,563 87

WM. F. FESSENDEN, Treasurer,

In Account with UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1, DR.

To amount received of P. P. Burnham, Treasurer for 1872,	$833 12
Interest collected on Note,	12 42
	$845 54

CR.

By paying 14 District Orders and Bills,	$844 75
Cash in hands of Treasurer,	79
	$845 54

WM. F. FESSENDEN, TREASURER.

TOWN AGENT'S REPORT.

The disputed claim against the town of Oxford for pauper supplies furnished to persons belonging to Oxford, on account of the Small pox, has been adjusted, and the sum of $190 has been paid into our treasury.

I know of no disputed matter between Bridgton and any other town now, except the suit of Cornish against Bridgton.

It will be remembered that the above named suit is for a bill paid by Cornish, of about $200, for the last sickness and burial of Albion Brown, son of Ivory Brown, in 1871. Bridgton claims that Ivory Brown and his family has gained a settlement in the town of Cornish since he left Bridgton. This Cornish denies, and hence the controversy.

The case was tried at last Jan. term of the Court at Saco, in York County. The jury to which the case was submitted failed to agree on a verdict. The case will be in order for another trial at the next May term at Alfred. The investigation at the trial in January had a tendency to convince me that we have justice on our side of the case; and our town officers are, I believe, unanimous that we yield to nothing short of a verdict against us.

JOHN P. PERLEY, TOWN AGENT.

Bridgton, Feb. 20th, 1874.

TOWN FARM ACCOUNT.

Dr.

For amount paid for Farm, Tools, &c., as per last Report,		$3881 93
" " repairs upon Buildings,		415 25
" " tools for 1873,		24 09
		$4321 27

Cr.

By amount of foregoing charges,	$4321 27	

Dr.

For amount of one year's Insurance,		$4 75
" " " Interest on cost of Farm,		182 00
" for help,		128 50
" for Superintendent's Salary,		350 00
" for Supplies,		518 61
		$1183 86

Cr.

By amount paid for Supplies,	$361 48	
" of clothing,	50 00	
" hay on hand,	180 00	
" increased value of stock,	100 00	
" supplies on hand,	190 00	
" live hogs and fowls,	25 00	
" due for board of E. Seaver,	15 00	
By cost of paupers' board, to bal.,	262 38	
		$1183 86

PAUPER BILLS OUTSIDE OF TOWN FARM.

Paid G. W. Freeman, supplies to C. M. Haseltine, 1872,	$12 07
G. H. Cummings Transient Pauper,	1 50
L. Smith & Co., Coffin and Robe to C. M. Haseltine,	16 00
Kimball & Potter, Medical att'de, "	57 75
H. O. Moses, Medicine, "	10 25
James Douglass, Burial of, "	4 00
Kimball & Potter, Medical att' on Family, "	9 00
H. O. Moses, Medicine for Mrs. Goldthwaite,	10 01
Joseph Knight, Board of "	31 44
C. E. Hill, Medical att'on "	72 00
H. O. Moses, Medicine for Family Jotham Kimball,	7 60
C. E. Hill, Medical attendance on faml'y "	123 00
J. J. Walker, Bal of Rent for Mrs. Littlefield,	7 50
J. J. " Wood "	5 50
C. B. Gibbs, services during Small-pox,	5 00
W. S. Quincey, Digging Grave,	4 00
John M. Richardson, Board of Mrs. Joseph P. Ingalls,	33 29
Kimball & Potter, Medical attendance "	50 00
W. B. Cobb, Medical attendance on Mrs. N. Merrill for 1870,	68 20
H. O. Moses, Medicine for 1870, 1, 2, and 3,	58 75
	$586 86

The friends of Mrs. Forest Littlefield have removed her from the Town Farm, and Thomas Burnham has withdrawn himself: E. Seaver has died; but we have received accessions from the McKenney family, so the number of Paupers is the same as at the time of the last Report.

The following is a list of the persons upon the Town Farm at this date:

Lovell Fairbrother, Seneca Davenport,
Edward Lakin, Wesley Kimball,
Robert McKenney, wife and daughter.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1873.

				Dr.	Cr.
By amount expended for breaking roads and overwork in 1872, as follows:					
Dist. No.	1.	W. L. Harmon,	Surveyor,		$18 15
"	2.	W. F. Fessenden,	"		16 90
"	3.	Daniel Long,	"		40 00
"	4.	Wm. Hill,	"		25 96
"	5.	C. O. Kilborn,	"		3 57
"	6.	E. A. Cross,	"		23 97
"	7.	T. P. Merrill,	"		29 30
"	8.	Samuel Martin,	"		24 00
"	9.	R. B. Emery,	"		22 93
"	10.	John H. Roes.	"		28 54
"	11.	A. J. Roes,	"		37 45
"	12.	Job Cushman,	"		16 22
"	13.	Albion Simpson.	"		3 96
"	14.	Aaron Gibbs,	"		92 32
"	15.	Charles H. Gould,	"		8 26
"	16.	Henry Smith,	"		11 28
"	17.	James Webb,	"		87
"	18.	George Glines,	"		27 68
"	19.	Wm. W. Hazen,	"		11 06
"	20.	Newton P. Gibbs,	"		5 00
"	21.	B. F. Whitney,	"		26 28
"	22.	George Morrison,	"		12 05
"	23.	Daniel Shaw,	"		71 24
"	24.	Charles R. Jacobs,	"		62 16
"	25.	Nathan Freeman,	"		83 05
"	26.	James Douglass,	"		35 70
"	27.	A. B. Kilborn,	"		
"	28.	J. P. Perley,	"		
"	29.	John W. Fowler,	"		
"	30.	C. B. Gibbs,	"		51 92
"	31.	Charles Griffin,	"		116 81
"	32.	Austin Brigham,	"		
"	33.	James Bird,	"		2 00
"	34.	R. A. Barnard,	"		24 44
					$933 07

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee

The condition and progress of the public schools of this town during the past municipal year have been reasonably satisfactory. In no instance has the committee been called upon to quell insubordination or allay disturbances. The selection of teachers has, in the main, proved fortunate, and very few schools have failed to make substantial progress.

The town, at its annual meeting, raised $3500 for the support of schools. The receipts from the Bank and Mill Taxes, and the School Fund increased this sum to $4727.47; allowing each scholar $5.66. The schools have, consequently, been unusually long, and as we trust, proportionately useful. Even the smallest districts have had sessions of considerable length. District No. 4, with only 6 scholars, favored by an unexpended balance, has had 15 weeks of school; No. 14, with 10 scholars, aided by $20 transferred from Union No. 1, has had 18 weeks; No. 2, with 14 scholars, assisted by $20 transferred from No. 11, has had 11 weeks. All other districts have had from 18 to 39 weeks of school respectively. No other transfers of money than those above named have been made; nor is it deemed judicious to so aid such small districts as can help themselves by uniting. Any course open to districts with a sparse and diminishing population will have some inconveniences and difficulties, but that above indicated is believed to be the most practicable. The recommendations made last year for the division of No. 10 between Nos. 11 and 18, and for the annexation of No. 4 to No. 19, are respectfully renewed.

Exclusive of the salary paid the Principal of the High School, $1000 per annum, the average pay of male teachers per month, exclusive of board, has been $32.17. Female teachers received, during the Summer terms, an average weekly pay, exclusive of board, of $4.04; during the winter, $5.18. It is not pleasant to add that the best service has by no means invariably received the best pay.

The school houses are mostly in comfortable condition. Their total value is estimated at about $21,000.00: twelve houses being worth $300.00 and upward, and five being worth less. The school houses in No. 12, No 19, and Union District No. 2, however, are wholly unfit for their purpose, and should be immediately rebuilt. It

is earnestly recommended that each and every school house be furnished with good and sufficient blackboards, and with outline maps, globe, and dictionary. The expense would be trifling, and the benefit great.

The only change in text books made during the year has been the substitution of Greene's Grammars for the miscellaneous grammars heretofore in use. They have given good satisfaction, and have been of substantial advantage; though many of the less advanced scholars have made a great mistake in procuring the larger book, when the "Introduction" would have been far more serviceable. The latter treatise is believed to contain all the grammar that is ordinarily needed in practical life, and is by all means the book for beginners.

Special attention to Reading, Writing, and Spelling, the very roots of a good education, is earnestly recommended. In learning to read, the pupil should be exercised only upon pieces which he can thoroughly understand; and he should then be required to read as if he understood. Every scholar should spell every day. Writing, for obvious reasons, should be taught systematically; Payson, Dunton & Scribner's system is probably as good as any. Geography, though admirably adapted to the capacity of younger pupils, is very much neglected; partly, no doubt, for want of appliances to make the study of it pleasant and interesting. The use of outline maps, and the practice of map-drawing, should always form a part of this study. Arithmetic and Grammar should be studied with more direct reference to the actual use to be made of these branches of learning by the pupil in practical life. By all means, let a fair share of the Arithmetic be mental, and let the Grammar be taught largely by practical exercises and examples. The study of these branches, as a mere mental discipline, is not to be commended. The entire school life of too many pupils is vainly spent in worrying through perplexities and intricacies, or through endless rounds of form and routine, which they never understand and will certainly never use. Instead of this, the study of Elementary Physiology, U. S. History, and Natural Philosophy is recommended, as giving a broader, a more diversified, and more useful culture. Every scholar should be taught the elements of Book-keeping. Simple lessons in drawing are strongly recommended, as occasionally affording a grateful relief from hard study, and as cultivating an accomplishment at once graceful and useful. For a thorough course, Bartholomew's drawing cards and books—for amateur drawing, Nutting's Self-Instructing Lessons will be found useful. Such exercises for small scholars are especially beneficial. Singing and Calisthenics are largely employed by the best educators, to enliven the routine and dispel the tedium of the school-room; and whenever found practicable, they should be brought into use.

The frequent absence of our pupils from school is a very great hindrance to their advancement. Of our 834 scholars, only 597 have been under instruction at all during the past year! and of these many have attended their respective schools only a part of the time they were in session,— too many only a small part. While the entire attendance has been 597, the whole number registered in winter has been

559 and in summer 490; and the average attendance in winter has been but 479 and in summer 402 only. In summer only 77 scholars are reported invariably present, in winter 136. It is little comfort to know that the State at large does equally ill or a little worse; we must try to do better. Almost any day, not a few children may be seen in the streets, who ought to be at school. At the beginning of the Fall Term in Union Dist. No. 1, five pupils of Primary B, nearly or quite ready for the Grammar School, were taken from their studies by their parents and put to work in the factory. We earnestly exhort parents not to permit a careless waste of priceless opportunities; we implore them not to sacrifice to some transient and trifling convenience the life-long interests and prospects of their children.

Tardiness in attendance is another great evil in most of our schools. During the past year no less than 2088 cases of tardiness have been reported; of which one district, No. 11, alone and unaided, has furnished 566. Strict promptitude in teachers and pupils not only conduces greatly to the efficiency of the school, but also tends to the formation of habits that will be found invaluable in after life.

Every parent who visits the school where his children are taught, confers a benefit, upon it and them. By every such manifestation of interest, both the teacher and taught will be encouraged and stimulated. Over 275 visits have been made our schools by citizens during the last year; may the number next year be twice as large.

Below is a condensed report of each school.

Union District No. 1.

This District at its last annual meeting raised $500, and has expended $1000 and upward for the support of its High School, entitling it to receive $500 from the State, according to the provisions of the High School Law. Of this last sum $345.78, being all then due according to the provisions of the statute, were paid to the district at the time of the annual disbursement in Dec. last; the balance will undoubtedly be paid next Dec. The sum thus realized, $845.78, together with $1921.38 regularly apportioned, and $150, received as tuition in the High School, has given the District $2917.16 for the support of its school system during the year.

Good progress has been made in reducing the schools in this District to a regular graded system. The Grammar School was separated from the High School at the beginning of the Fall Term. Careful examinations, so conducted as to insure absolute impartiality, are required in order to promotion from schools of lower to those of higher grade. The preparation and adoption of a regular course of study is none the less necessary because full of practical difficulties. It has been felt that no course could be put into thoroughly successful operation, that had not been matured with constant reference to existing local facts, and which had not in some sense resulted from the growth and development of the schools themselves. The subject has received consideration, and a course of study, at least in its general features, will be made public before the beginning of next term.

The general improvement in these schools, made largely within the past year, is extremely gratifying. It has equalled if not exceeded our hopes. In Primary and Grammar Schools, the Normal methods are used with marked advantage; while the High School is rapidly approximating a genuine Academic standard. In the latter school especially, absence and tardiness have been reduced to the practical minimum. The progress of these schools the present term cannot be reported with satisfactory accuracy and precision, as they are yet in session and the examinations have not taken place. The evidences af-

forded at the closing examinations of last term of true scholarship and rapid progress must have been very gratifying to all present; and we count with confidence upon satisfactory results the present term.

The High School has been under the care of Albert F. Richardson, A. B., during the year. Of the zeal, faithfulness, and efficiency of his labors, we can speak in the highest terms. The Grammar School has been under the successful management of Miss Augusta J. Holley. Valuable assistance, both in High and Grammar Schools, was rendered by Miss Roxie Brigham during Spring and Fall Terms. Primary A was taught, Spring Term, by Miss Mary Davis; Fall and Winter Terms by Miss Louie Leland. This school is in very excellent condition. Primary B has been taught during the year by Miss Mary S. Cleaves, with the assistance during Fall Term of Miss Mary Emerson, in a manner highly satisfactory.

Union District No 2.—The Summer Term of 8 weeks was successfully taught by Miss Cyntha J. Wales. The Winter Term of 9 weeks was taught by Mr. D. P. Chaplin, a member of this Board.

District No. 1.—Summer Term 11 weeks, was taught by Miss Lydia M. Larribee, the school making fair progress. The Winter Term, 12 weeks, taught by Mr. Willis O. Dike, was not satisfactory.

District No. 2.—Only one term, but a very successful one, of 11 weeks, taught by Miss Mary E. Staples.

District No. 3.—Summer term, 10 weeks, taught by Miss Abbie Andrews; very good indeed. Winter, Mr. Gardiner Holmes, still in progress and doing very well.

District No 4.—Only one term, taught by Mrs. Mira Bennett. Good progress was made.

District No 7.—Summer, 10 weaks, Miss E. B. Hamlin; a very excellent school. Winter, Miss Jessie F. Bennett; good school, and still in progress.

District No. 8.—Summer, 13 weeks; winter, 10 weeks; both terms taught by Miss Clara H. Ingalls, and fairly profitable.

District No. 9.—Summer, 9 weeks, Miss Eudocia Chaplin; winter, 10 weeks, Mr. G. W. Rounds. Last term unusually profitable.

District No 10. Summer, 8 weeks, Miss Lydia B. Gibbs; winter, 10 weeks, Alice R. Kimball. First term fair, last very good.

District No. 11.—Summer, 11 weeks, Miss Sarah Gill; not satisfactory. Fall, 7 weeks, Miss Lydia B. Gibbs; quite good. Winter, 12 weeks, Mr. C. E. Chapman; a very good school indeed.

District No. 12.—Summer, 10 weeks, Miss Maria P. Sawyer; winter, 12 do., Mrs. Clara E. Taylor. Both terms profitable, especially the last.

District No. 13.—Summer, 10 weeks, Miss Ellen E. Bangs; moderate progress. Winter, 12 do., Miss Eliza G. Knight; very good.

District No. 14.—Only one term, a highly profitable one, 18 weeks, by Miss Alice R. Kimball.

District No. 16.—Summer, 10 weeks, Miss Mary E Staples; very good. Winter, 9 do., Mr. E. A. P. Yates; a pretty fair school.

District No. 18.—Summer, 8 weeks; fall, 8 do.; winter, 7 1-2 do; Miss Allie I. Potter. School in excellent condition throughout.

District No. 19.—Summer, 10 weeks, Miss Idatyn Gove. Winter, Miss Clara E. Libby; a very good school, still in progress.

District No 20.—Summer, 12 weeks, Miss Belle M. Freeman; a very successful term. Winter, 13 weeks, Miss Maria P. Sawyer; good progress made.

Respectfully submitted,

N. LINCOLN,
D. P. CHAPLIN,
T. S. PERRY,
} Superintending School Committee of Bridgton.

Bridgton, Feb. 25th, 1874.

	Dr.	Cr.
Brought Forward,		$933 07
Paid W. H. Jewett, for road damage for land,		25 00
" for labor on L. Smith Road, (say)		50 00
		$1008 07
By amount expended in 1873,		2651 75
		$3659 82
To amount raised by Town,	$3000 00	
" overdrawn to balance account,	659 82	
	$3659 82	$3659 82

I have worked on the highway in all forty days, for which I have charged the town $2.50 per day, making bill as Road Commissioner $100.00

JOHN MORRISON, Road Commissioner.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

	Cr.	Dr.
To amount of commitment for 1873,		$24304 09
By amount paid Town Treasurer, 1873,	$10028 93	
paid the County Tax, in part,	1009 44	
State Tax, in full,	4282 65	
		15321 02
Balance in my hands at this date,		$8983 07

I have settled with the Treasurer in full for the years 1871 and '72.

The following is a list of persons whose tax for '72 remain unpaid:

Bacon, G. B.,	$3 00	No name,	6 72
Barton, James H.,	3 00	Irish, Asa,	3 57
Ballard, David,	3 72	Jordan, James,	3 00
Bartlett, D. C.,	3 00	Kimball, Sewell,	3 00
Burnell, Granville,	3 00	Knight, Joseph Jr.,	80
Choate, Lean. & C. O. Kilborn,	1 07	Murphy, James,	3 00
Drake, Simeon,	3 00	Riley, William O.,	3 00
Davis, Hiram,	3 12	Smith, William C.,	3 00
Dresser, Clayton M.,	3 00	Stuart, Thomas,	3 00
Dyer, R.,	1 15	Sanborn, Wallace,	3 00
Evans, C. S.,	3 00	Thorne, John O.,	1 28
Gerrish, H. G.,	3 00	Thorne, Susan,	72
Gibson, Tobias,	3 72	Trumbull, Alvin,	5 15
Harmon, S. M.,	14 60	Taylor, David,	3 00
Gibbs, Fred.,	4 08	Thorne, Daniel,	3 00
Griswold, Alex.,	11 58	Kimball, A. H.,	3 00
Holmes, Gardiner,	38	Kimball, Luther G.,	5 87
Hamblin, Frank,	3 00	Littlefield, Francis,	45
Houghton, Orin,	3 00		

Persons from whom the above amount is due must make arrangements for immediate payment, or measures will be taken to close it up.

JOHN F. POTTER, Collector.

SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTS.

Union School District No. 1.

	DR.	CR.
By amount unexpended in 1872,		$22 00
" apportioned for 1873,		1941 38
" assessed "		2798 66
To amount expended,	$3210 03	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	1552 01	
	$4762 04	$4762 04

Union School District No. 2.

By amount apportioned for 1873,		$152 82
To amount overdrawn in 1872,	$9 85	
" expended in 1873,	140 02	
" due District. (Feb. 20, 1874,)	2 95	
	$152 82	$152 82

School District No. 1.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		$9 95
" apportioned in 1873,		288 66
To amount expended in 1873,	$99 75	
" due District. (Feb. 20, 1874,)	198 86	
	$298 61	$298 61

School District No. 2.

By amount apportioned, 1873,		$99 24
To amount overdrawn in 1872,	$19 41	
" expended in 1873,	22 00	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	57 83	
	$99 24	$99 24

School District No. 3.

By amount apportioned, 1873,		$186 78
To amount overdrawn in 1872,	44	
" expended in 1873,	$104 00	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1871,)	82 34	
	$186 78	$186 78

School District No. 4.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		$57 05
" apportioned in 1873,		33 96
To amount expended in 1873,	$91 01	
	$91 01	$91 01

School District No. 7.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		$9 75
" apportioned in 1873,		175 46
To amount expended in 1873,	$101 54	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	83 67	
	185 21	185 21

School District No. 8.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		46
" apportioned in 1873,		147 16
To amount expended in 1873,	147 62	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	77	
	147 62	147 62

School District No. 9.

	DR.	CR.
By amount unexpended in 1872,		$2 46
" apportioned for 1873,		107 54
" assessed "		61 02
To amount expended, 1873	$156 30	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	14 72	
	$171 02	$171 02

School District No. 10.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		$7 33
" apportioned in 1873,		124 52
To amount expended in 1873,	$108 35	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	23 50	
	$131 85	$131 85

School District No. 11.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		33 60
" apportioned in 1873,		447 14
" assessed on		4 60
To amount expended in 1873,	401 60	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	83 74	
	$485 34	$485 34

School District No. 12.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		43 27
" apportioned in 1873,		158 48
" assessed "		628 97
To amount expended in 1873,	189 40	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	641 32	
	830 72	830 72

School District No. 13.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		4 14
" apportioned in 1873,		152 82
To amount expended in 1873,	149 61	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	7 35	
	156 96	156 96

School District No. 14.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		88
By amount apportioned for 1873,		56 60
" from Union Dist No. 1,		20 00
" of fractional overplus,		7 03
To " expended in 1873,	81 00	
" Due Dist., (Feb. 20, 1874,)	3 51	
	$84 51	$84 51

School District No. 16.

By amount apportioned, 1873,		175 46
" overdrawn, "		7 08
To amount expended, "	182 54	
	182 54	182 54

School District No. 18.

By amount unexpended, 1872,		$1 37
" apportioned, 1873,		113 20
" assessed, "		71 61
To amount expended, "	178 50	
" Due Dist., (Feb. 20, 1874)	7 68	
	186 18	186 18

School District No. 19.

By amount apportioned, 1873,		164 14
To amount expended in 1873,	163 14	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	1 00	
	164 14	164 14

School District No. 20.

By amount unexpended in 1872,		8 91
" apportioned, 1873,		209 42
To amount expended in 1873,	210 22	
" due District, (Feb. 20, 1874,)	8 11	
	218 33	218 33

Sebago School Money.

By amount for 1873,		5 66
To amount paid,	5 66	
	$5 66	$5 66

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWN, Feb. 20, 1874.

RESOURCES.

Amount due from J. F. Potter, on Commitments of 1873,	$9106 29
of Cash in hands of Treasurer,	170 98
due on Non-Resident Taxes,	25 69
Total,	$9302 96

LIABILITIES.

Amount due School Districts,	$2784 33
of notes overdue,	13,077 68
Town Bonds redeemable 1885,	1550 00
School Fund Debt,	551 00
Interest Order No. 1 and Interest,	106 00
" accrued and not due,	210 07
" due and unpaid,	74 60
County Tax unpaid,	191 87
Town Officers' Bills,	538 00
Outstanding Town Orders,	1595 12
Balance due Superintendent of Town Farm,	225 00
Debt of Andrews Fund,	96 00
due J. F. Potter, on Collection of 1873,	122 57
" Schools for 1874, from State, used to pay State Tax,	1395 10
" for Printing this Report, say,	60 00
Total,	$22577 34

Brought Forward,	$22577 34
Deduct Resources,	$9302 96
Total of Liabilities,	$13274 38
Deduct value of Town Farm and Stock,	$3500 00
Total Debt, outside of all assets,	$9774 38

APPROPRIATION FOR SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

	Dr.	Cr.
By amount raised,		$1000 00
To amount expended,	$1450 82	
By amount overdrawn,		$450 82
	$1450 82	$1450 82

HIGHWAY APPROPRIATIONS.

By amount raised,		$3000 00
To amount expended,	$3659 82	
By amount overdrawn,		$659 82
	$3659 82	$3659 82

TOWN CHARGES.

By amount raised,		$800 00
" for repairs on Town House,		325 00
" " D. P. Larrabee,		25 50
" " Eastman Heirs,		50 00
" " Mrs. Gray and Son,		75 00
" overdrawn,		956 78
To amount expended,	2232 28	
	$2232 28	$2232 28

OVERLAY.

By amount,		681 42
To amount expended,	547 31	
" charged Town Appropriation,	134 11	
	$681 42	$681 42

DEBT AND INTEREST APPROPRIATION.

By amount raised,		5000 00
To amount expended,	1137 60	
" unexpended,	3862 40	
	$5000 00	$5000 00

BUILDINGS ON TOWN FARM.

	Dr.	Cr.
By amount raised,		$300 00
" overdrawn,		115 25
To amount expended,	415 25	
	$415 25	415 25

SCHOOL MONEY.

By amount raised,		$3500 00
" assessed on District,		3560 26
" received from State,		1165 82
" interest on School Fund,		61 76
" unexpended in 1872,		249 17
To amount expended,	5752 68	
" due School Districts,	2784 33	
	$8537 01	$8537 01

TOWN OF BRIDGTON.

By Amount raised for town,	$14175 50	
State Tax,	4282 65	
County Tax,	1210 31	
Harrison Note,	192 35	
Overlay,	681 43	
Highway Deficiency 1872,	211 59	
Tax on Dogs,	113 00	
Assessed on Districts,	3560 26	
	$24427 09	
To Amount paid for Poor,		$1450 82
Highways,		3659 82
Town Charges,		2232 28
Abatements,		547 31
Debt and Interest,		1137 60
Town Farm Buildings,		415 25
School Districts,		8287 84
State Tax,		4282 65
County Tax,		1210 31
Unexpended,		1203 21
	$24427 09	$24427 09

We have omitted to print the list of orders as usual, for two reasons. First, it would add some fifteen pages to the Report; and Second, there is a record of every order, which is open to the inspection of any one.

We have adopted a simple system of Book-keeping in town affairs, as will be seen by the Report.

The appropriation for Town charges has been largely overdrawn, on account of Insane Hospital bills, Cornish suit, and all other charges for which there is no special appropriation made.

Although the appropriation for Highways has been overdrawn to the amount of $659.82, yet the Road Commissioner has not expended the amount placed in his hands, by the sum of $348.25, this difference occurring on account of excessive snow-bills for 1872, as seen by this report.

It will be seen that the appropriation for the Poor is overdrawn on account of Superintendent's salary for 1872, and a portion of salary for 1873 being drawn from this year's appropriation, also for bills for poor outside of Farm, (some of which accrued in 1868,) also some stock and tools for Town Farm, as seen by Farm Account.

The account with the Town of Bridgton refers to the appropriations as they have passed through the hands of the Selectmen, unconnected with the Treasurer or any other person.

SUMS RECOMMENDED TO BE RAISED FOR 1874.

Town Charges,	$1500 00
Support of Poor,	1000 00
" Schools,	3500 00
Debt and Interest,	
Highways,	3000 00
Insane Hospital,	450 00
E. E. Wilder's Order,	250 00
Town Farm Buildings,	

Owing to the absence of the Auditor, he has been unable to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, but he promises to attend to that duty upon his return from Augnsta.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. F. FESSENDEN,
BYRON KIMBALL,
I. S. WEBB,
Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor, of the Town of Bridgton.

Bridgton, Feb. 20th, 1874.

ERRATUM.—The bill of Road Commissioner Morrison is forty instead of one hundred dollars, the remaining sixty dollars being included in another account. The error occurred at the printing office.

A STATEMENT RELATING TO THE TOWN FINANCES.

BY GEORGE E. CHADBOURNE.

TO THE SELECTMEN OF BRIDGTON:

By your permission I will endeavor to show to the citizens of Bridgton that no defalcation does exist by reason of the misdoings of Town Treasurers from 1864 to 1871, inclusive; neither any intended misstatements in regard to Town affairs as represented by the correspondent of THE NEWS of last Spring and referred to by "Voter" in last week's issue.

Allow me here to say, that the reason of delay of the promised explanation was, the intention to look over the mat er with, and in the presence of, the present Auditor, B. C. Stone, Esq., that he might be able to certify to the correctness of my statements; but my continued absence during the season to January 1st of the present year, and that of Mr. Stone from that time until the present, has made it impossible to do so. Therefore, if the least doubt exists as to the truth of the same, an investigation by an impartial committee will be claimed and *urged* by the parties interested, as well as by the Town, and that without delay.

If mem ry serves (not having the facts and figures at hand as set forth by said correspondent) after a most thorough investigation, he reduced the whole matter to—

First. That it was reported that the Town was out of debt.

Second. That about $5,000 had been paid out by Treasurers more than orders drawn therefor.

Third, That Treasurer Perley had about (or more than) $5000 in his hands, unaccounted for.

As to charge Number One: It was not our intention to set forth that the whole liabilities of The Town were canceled, but that the assets as then appeared would cancel the liabilities of the coming year, exclusive of interest, as we were aware that several thousand dollars would still remain unpaid It will be seen that a reference in the next Report was made, and an explanation was given (and, as it appeared then, was satisfactory) in Town Meeting of that year.

Charge Number Two I will try to explain as follows:

In redeeming the outstanding notes by the Treasurer or by the Collector per his order the interest was cast upon said notes and together with the principal added on the back thereof, being his voucher as it then was. After being paid it was entered on the Treasurer's Account, with the name of the person in whose favor it was drawn, the amount of the same together with the amount of interest as it then was, which in many cases was from one to three year's standing, in the whole amounting to about $5,000, paid by the Treasurer without ordering himself to pay it in due form, of which the propriety for so doing was questioned then and there, and ruled that the Account was sufficient and orders unnecessary.

The Third charge in the count being of grave importance, as appears by "Voter's" article, (which comes in the right spirit), it having given the impression if not the belief fully, that the Town has been wronged out of several thousand dollars (and that, too, by one we have reason to place the utmost confidence in) to those that have not had experience in Town business; as those that have readily saw the difficulty the former correspondent labored under; and even one of the Selectmen of another town told me that he named to him where he would find the money, while he was making his effort so to do, is explained thus:

Treasurer's Report closed Feb. 20th, 1869 leaving in his hands the sum of	$5933 76
His Book account shows paid from Feb. 20th to March 1st, the sum of	5749 06
The Report for 1869 shows that he received of the last Treasurer, to balance account,	184 70
Total, accounted for,	$5933 76

If it had been surmised at the time of making the Report, as it since has proved, that even one person in Town worthy of notice had the slightest idea that the Municipal Officers as a body would unite in conspiring to defraud the Town or any person therein out of thousands of dollars—as they *must* of necessity in such case be combined—then would they have resigned their offices, or the Treasurer would have given the *items* as paid in the remainder of his Account, notwithstanding it had *never* been the custom.

If an investigation is found necessary, perhaps it will be well to take the records, as *they* are the *legal* authority—as in making the Report it is found necessary to estimate' or rather say, the amount of abatements and outstanding Bills, &c., and oftimes a Bill considered good proves uncollectable—and we have no fears of the result.

I will here say that I shall hold no further controversy in the matter whatever, but will gladly give any explanation in my power if met in a *friendly* manner, or if an investigation is had, shall expect to abide the consequences.

Truly, The Town's Ex-Servant,

GEO. E. CHADBOURNE.

North Bridgton, Feb. 21st, 1874.

1887